GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
RURAL DEVELOPMENT
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:4440
ANSWERED ON:26.08.2004
HURDLE OF FOREST ACT IN PMGSY IN HIMACHAL PRADESH
Singh Smt. Pratibha

Will the Minister of RURAL DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Forest Conservation Act, 1980, is the biggest hurdle in the implementation of ` Pradhan Mantri Gram Sadak Yojana` particularly in Himachal Pradesh; and

(b) if so, the steps being taken by the Government to solve it?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT(SHRIMATI SURYAKANTA PATIL)

(a) If forest land is required for the roadway width for a road, provisions for Forest

(Conservation) Act, 1980 are attracted and permission is required to be obtained.

(b) All State Governments have been advised on 23rd June, 2003 to identify all cases where Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980 is likely to be involved well in advance and move proposals for clearance under the Act. The Government of Himachal Pradesh has intimated that concerted effort is being made by the State Public Works Department and Forest Department to process cases under the Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980 and such cases are being pursued vigorously with the Ministry of Environment and Forests.